Review Committee is that, as in the past, the Padma Awards may continue to be given every year on the Republic Day. However, due to lack of adequate time for completing the process of selection of persons for the awards, it may not be possible to make the next announcement of the awards on the coming Republic Day.

(c) and (d) The criteria/guidelines for awarding 'Bhart Ratna' 'Padma Vabhushan' 'Padma Bhushan' and 'Padma Shri' are contained in Regulation 5 of the following Notifications issued by the office of the Secretary to the President: (1) No. 1—Pres/55 dated 8th January, 1955, (2) No. 2—pres/55 dated 8th January, 1955, (3) No. 3. Pres/55 dated 8th January, 1955 and (4) No. 4—Pres/55 dated 8th January, 1955. Regulation 5 reads as follows:

(i) In case of Bharat Ratna : "The decoration shall be awarded for exceptional service towards the advancement of Art, Literature and Science, and in recognition of public service of the highest order."

(ii) In case of Padma Vibhushan : "The decoration shall be awarded for exceptional and distinguished service in any field including service rendered by Government servants."

(iii) In case of Padma Bhushan "The decoration shall be awarded for distinguished service of a high order in any field including service rendered by Government servants."

(iv) In case of Padma Shri : "The decoration shall be awarded for distinguished service in any field including service rendered by Government servants."

The High Level Review Committee has not recommended any change in the criteria for the award of Bharat Ratna. However, for the Padma Awards, the Committee has recommended that, in the achievements of the persons to be selected, there has to be an element of public service. It should not be merely an excellence in a particular field, but the criteria have to be 'excellence plus.' One should look for a life-time achievement.

Recommendations for the Padma Awards are invited from the State Goverments/Union Territory Administrations and from the Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India.

American Laws for Checking Child Labour

2751. DR. MOHAN BABU:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the American laws require posting of a child labour inspector to check involvement of child labour in industries whose products are exported to USA; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) No, Sir. There is as yet no Americal law requiring posting of a US child labour inspector in India to check involvement of child labour in respect of Indian exports to USA.

(b) Does not arise.

Quota for Haj 1997

2752. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total Pilgrim quota for Haj 1997;

(b) whether the accommodation for all the pilgrims has already been procured, within 800 metres from Holy Kabah; and

(c) if not, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) The Haj Pilgrim quota for Haj '97 has been fixed at 56,000.

(b) and (c) For Haj '97, it has been decided to have three categories of accommodation for Indian pilgrims, located, respectively, at upto 600 metres, upto 800 metres and between 801 metres and 1200 metres from the Haram Sharief at Makkah. The process of procurement of the accommodation is currently underway and over 42,000 units have already been selected so far. Work with regard to selection of remaining units is being undertaken by the Consulate General of India, Jeddah, with the help of the Building Selection team which is currently in Jeddah.

Investment AT&T in Cellular Phone Network

2753. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that AT&T is to invest $ 105 bn. in India over the next ten years to complete its cellular phone network in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount so far required to be paid by the company as licence fee to the Department of Telecommunications and the number of subscribers enrolled till date and target of enrolment set in next ten years; and

(c) whether master switching centres have been set up by the Company in collaboration with the Aditya Vikram Birla group; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No such information has been received by the Government.

(b) M/s Birla Communications Ltd., have been licensed to provide Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in Gujarat and Maharashtra Territorial Telecom Circles and M/s. AT & T is a foreign partner in this company. The amount of licence fee payable for first year is Rs. 313.80 crores and over a period of 10 years is Rs. 3451.80 crores. As per the information received from the licensee company, they have enrolled 4600 subscribers till date in Maharastra and Gujarat Circles. The ten year targets as indicated by the licensee company are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(c) Mobile Switching Centres (MSCs) have been installed in Pune, Gandhinagar and Penjim as per the company.

Statement

Birla Communications Ltd.

Subscribers projections over 10 years

Sl. No.	Year	Projected Subscribers
1.	1996	10000
2.	1997	67200
3.	1998	133920
4.	1999	209011
5.	2000	298332
6.	2001	408472
7.	2002	544420
8.	2003	714446
9.	2004	913434
10.	2005	1149792

Refusal to Part Payment of PLI

2754. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that part payment of PLI is done by the concerned post offices;

(b) if so, the circumstances in which post offices can deny part payments after clearance by APMG (PLI);

(c) the details of policy holders who have been refused part payments even after clearance by APMG (PLI) in November, 1996 by Sarojini Nagar (H.O.) post office;

(d) whether any complaints have been received by Chief PMG, Jhandewalan, New Delhi; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard?